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COUNTRY East Germany

TOPIC Grossenhain Airfield

EVALUATION see below

PLACE OBTAINED

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DATE OF CONTENT 18 May to 1 June 1953

DATE OBTAINED

DATE PREPARED 13 July 1953

REFERENCES

PAGES 2 ENCLOSURES (NO. &amp; TYPE)

REMARKS

SOURCE

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- i. The following air activity and aircraft were observed at Grossenhain airfield between 18 and 30 May 1953:

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18 May. [redacted] eight individual take-offs and flights were made by jet fighters without auxiliary fuel tanks. There was a 2/10 overcast at about 1,200 meters. [redacted] there was air activity by planes flying individually, in elements of two and in formations of three.

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19 May. There was no air activity during the day while the sky was 1/10 overcast. [redacted] two planes were continuously aloft flying at a distance of 120 to 150 meters, the front plane flying in the beams of several searchlights. A total of five searchlights were in operation. Their cables extended from the airfield across the surrounding field. A total of 21 MiG-15s including 4 alert planes were counted at the field.

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20 May. [redacted] there was air activity by a formation of three MiG-15s with auxiliary fuel tanks, which maintained an interval of 40 meters and a distance of about 20 meters between the individual planes. Subsequently, flying in flight formation continued. [redacted] there was night flying by planes with set position lights while searchlights were in operation.

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21 May. [redacted] there was air activity in connection with searchlights.

22 and 24 May. There was no air activity during the day or night although the visibility was good and the weather clear.

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25 May. [redacted] there was intensive air activity by planes flying individually and in formation of two and three. There were no clouds. Take-offs by elements of two were repeatedly made at short intervals. [redacted]

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[redacted] night flights were again made while searchlights were in operation.

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26 May. There were no clouds in the morning. In the course of the day, the sky became cloudy and, [redacted] there was a closed cloud base at 300 meters. Simultaneously, there were strong winds. [redacted]

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four MiG-15s with auxiliary fuel tanks made local flights.

25X1 27 May. A Li-2 plane landed at the field [redacted] and took off about [redacted] heading north. There was a closed ceiling. 25X1

25X1 28 May. A Li-2 plane landed [redacted] and again took off [redacted] 25X1

25X1 29 May. Local flights were made by a Po-2 [redacted] while there was an 8/10 overcast. A MiG-15 with auxiliary fuel tanks took off toward the northwest [redacted] A single-engine plane was aloft [redacted] 25X1

30 May. There was no air activity during the morning. The ceiling was closed.

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[redacted] 3. On 19 May, there was night flying by swept-back jet fighters while searchlights were in operation. No air activity was observed on 24 May. Flights were made by MiG-15s in the morning of 25 May.

4. The previously reported radar sets were still observed on the northern edge of the field on 14 May. The AA gun emplacement west of the end of the southwest-northeast runway was still occupied by six guns. [redacted]

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[redacted] Comment. It is believed that Grossenhain airfield is still occupied by a fighter division headquarters and two fighter regiments. Noteworthy is the repeated air activity at night which was previously observed frequently at Grossenhain airfield. [redacted]

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